In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) Method for the production of a three-dimensional preform having a final three dimensional target shape, from textile starting materials including components such as fibers, fiber bundles or tapes, the three dimensional preform having a desired fiber orientation and geometry, wherein:

a) the fiber orientation in and the geometry of a two-dimensional fabric are determined by back-calculation from the final ~~thee-dimensional~~ three-dimensional target shape,

b) the textile starting materials are laid two-dimensionally in a plane to manufacture a two-dimensional fabric in which the fibers are not yet definitely fixed in position and are still movable with respect to each other, whereby the textile starting materials are laid such that the orientation of the fibers of the textile starting material and the geometry of the two-dimensional fabric are as back-calculated from the three-dimensional target shape in step a), ~~and~~

c) the final three-dimensional target shape is produced by at least one of shaping and draping of the two-dimensional fabric, ~~and wherein the textile starting material is~~ so as to place the fibers, which are not yet definitely fixed in position and are still movable relative to each other, in the desired orientation and geometry, and

d) the textile starting material is fixed by the introduction of a binder after the at least one of shaping and draping in step c).

2. (previously presented) Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein after step c), a compacting is performed.

3. (previously presented) Method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein fibers, fiber bundles or tapes are used as textile starting materials.

4-7 (canceled)

8. (previously presented) Method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein pre-impregnated textile materials such as fibers or fiber bundles are used as textile starting materials.

9. (previously presented) Method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein after step b) of the method, the two-dimensional bonded fabric is removed and fed to the three-dimensional process of step c).

10. (canceled)